

What is claimed is:

1. An attachment for driving an object, comprising:
  - a lead;
  - a hammer slidably coupled to the lead;
  - a lead mounting assembly pivotably coupled to the lead; and
  - a hydraulic actuator coupled to the lead and the lead mounting assembly, the hydraulic actuator adapted to control the orientation of the lead relative to the lead mounting assembly.
2. The attachment of claim 1 further comprising:
  - a winch coupled to the lead mounting assembly.
3. The attachment of claim 1 further, wherein the lead mounting assembly further comprises:
  - a first mounting hole adapted for coupling to construction equipment, the first hole having a center line substantially perpendicular to the lead.
4. The attachment of claim 3, wherein the center line of the hole is perpendicular to an axis of rotation of the lead relative to the lead alignment assembly.
5. The attachment of claim 1, wherein the lead mounting assembly further comprises:
  - a mounting bracket having a first hole for coupling to a boom of an excavator and a second mounting hole for coupling to a hydraulic actuator adapted to rotate the mounting bracket relative to the boom relative to an axis of rotation defined by a the first hole.

6. The attachment of claim 5, wherein the lead mounting assembly further comprises:

- a mounting plate coupled to the mounting bracket; and
- a shaft coupled between the mounting plate and the lead, the shaft coaxial with an axis of rotation of the lead relative to the mounting plate.

7. The attachment of claim 1, wherein the lead further comprises:

- a plurality of holes formed therein and adapted to accept a pin for limiting the travel of the hammer.

8. The attachment of claim 1 further comprising:

- a cage shielding the hammer and adapted to travel with the hammer along the lead.

9. The attachment of claim 8, wherein the cage further comprises an integral ladder.

10. An attachment for a self-propelled, heavy construction machine having a boom rotationally coupled thereto and a plurality of hydraulic control fluid ports, the attachment comprising:

- a lead;
- a hammer slidably coupled to the lead; and
- a lead mounting assembly coupling the lead to the boom, the lead mounting assembly having a boom mounting hole defining a first axis of rotation substantially perpendicular to the lead, wherein the lead is rotational relative to the lead mounting assembly about a second axis of rotation substantially perpendicular to the first axis of rotation.

11. The attachment of claim 10, wherein the attachment further comprises:

- a hydraulic actuator coupled to the lead and the lead mounting assembly, the hydraulic actuator adapted to control the orientation of the lead relative to

the lead mounting assembly and adapted for coupling to existing hydraulic fluid control ports of the construction machine.

12. The apparatus of claim 10 further comprising:  
a winch coupled to the lead mounting assembly or the boom.
13. The attachment of claim 10, wherein the lead mounting assembly further comprises:  
a mounting bracket having the boom mounting hole formed therein;  
a mounting plate coupled to the mounting bracket; and  
a shaft coupled between the mounting plate and the lead, the shaft coaxial with the second axis of rotation.
14. The attachment of claim 10, wherein the lead further comprises:  
a plurality of holes formed therein and adapted to accept a pin for limiting the travel of the hammer.
15. The attachment of claim 10 further comprising:  
a cage shielding the hammer and adapted to travel with the hammer along the lead.
16. A pile driver comprising:  
a self-propelled machine;  
a boom having a first end coupled to the self-propelled machine;  
an actuator coupled to the boom in the machine and adapted for controlling the elevation of a second end of the boom;  
a lead mounting assembly coupled to the second end of the boom;  
an actuator coupled to the lead mounting assembly and the boom and adapted to control the orientation of the lead mounting assembly relative to the boom;

a lead pivotably coupled to the lead mounting assembly and rotatable relative to the lead mounting assembly on an axis substantially perpendicular to an axis of rotation of the lead mounting assembly relative to the boom between a vertical position and a horizontal position below the boom; and

a hammer slidably coupled to the lead.

17. The pile driver of claim 16, wherein the attachment further comprises:

an actuator coupled to the lead and the lead mounting assembly, the actuator adapted to control the orientation of the lead relative to the lead mounting assembly.

18. The pile driver of claim 16 further comprising:

a winch coupled to the lead mounting assembly or the boom.

19. The pile driver of claim 16, wherein the lead mounting assembly further comprises:

a mounting bracket having the boom mounting hole formed therein;

a mounting plate coupled to the mounting bracket; and

a shaft coupled between the mounting plate and the lead, the shaft coaxial with the second axis of rotation.

20. The pile driver of claim 16, wherein the lead further comprises:

a plurality of holes formed therein and adapted to accept a pin for limiting the travel of the hammer.

21. The pile driver of claim 16 further comprising:

a cage shielding the hammer and adapted to travel with the hammer along the lead.

22. The pile driver of claim 16, wherein the self-propelled machine is an excavator.